

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: JOSEPH P. CORRADO ET AL.)
Serial No.: 10/671,390) Group Art Unit: 2841
Filed: September 25, 2003) Before the Examiner: NYA
For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR A SELF) Confirmation No.: 4239
ALIGNING MULTIPLE CARD)
ENCLOSURE WITH HOT PLUG)
CAPABILITY)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on March 21, 2006, with regard to the above referenced patent application, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the of the claims in view of the following remarks.

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 have been rejected. Applicants' Attorney is grateful for the opportunity given by the Examiner to discuss the outstanding rejections on April 11 and 14, 2006, via teleconference. In line with these previous teleconferences, Applicants submit the present Response for further consideration, as requested by the Examiner. Claims 1-25 remain for consideration in view of the following Remarks. It is believed that such Response places the application in condition for allowance. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections - § 102

Claims 1, 2, 3-7, 9-12, 15-18 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Glover et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,846,699). The Examiner alleges that Figures 1-3 of Glover et al. teaches all elements of the above-mentioned claims. Applicants respectfully traverse.

To anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102, a single source must contain all of the elements of the claim. *Lewmar Marine Inc. v. Barient, Inc.*, 827 F.2d 744, 747, 3 U.S.P.Q.2d 1766, 1768 (Fed. Cir. 1987), *cert. denied*, 484 U.S. 1007 (1988). Moreover, the single source must disclose all of the claimed elements "**arranged as in the claim.**" (Emphasis added.) *Structural Rubber Prods. Co. v. Park Rubber Co.*, 749 F.2d 707, 716, 223 U.S.P.Q. 1264, 1271 (Fed. Cir. 1984).

It is respectfully submitted that Figures 1-3 of Glover et al. upon which the Examiner relies teach a rail 32 on an active edge (top edge in Fig. 2), which is slidably/guidably received in a dielectric housing 80. (Col. 7, lines 36-40 and Fig. 2.) Thus card 14 is guided into the cage via a channel 30 configured in the dielectric housing 80 defining the edge guide power connector 26. The rail 32 extending beyond an edge defining a periphery of card 14 is slidably/guidably received by the channel 30. (Col. 5, lines 32-46.) Furthermore, Glover et al. teach a contact means 58 disposed along one surface side of the card 14 to engage second contact sections 116 of terminals 110 extending from the top edge of the card 14 and preferably extending in a single row for contact with the strip 58 best seen in Figure 2. (Col. 8, lines 26-43.) Moreover, Glover et al. teach that rotary movement of actuator 96 creates a

camming action that causes electrical engagement between the second contact sections 116 and contact means 58. (Col. 8, lines 6-13.) Thus, Glover et al. neither teach a power tab that extends beyond the card edge, nor teach a power tab that directly interfaces with the guide rail to guide the daughter card into the cage and properly position the same for power and signal transmission thereto. In fact, Glover et al. teach away from a power tab extending beyond the edge of the card, because Glover et al. teaches that “[i]t is also an objective to independently shut off power to the card, thus performing a switching function [via said actuator 96].” (Col. 3, lines 37-41.) Therefore, Glover et al. teach away from having a power tab extending beyond the card edge guiding the card in a receiving rail, but also for direct electrical connection with a corresponding power receptacle in the rail once the power tab and corresponding power receptacle are aligned with one another (without any camming action to provide electrical contact therebetween).

Further, Glover et al. teach away from a power tab guiding a daughter card in or out of the cage, because Glover et al. specifically discloses that “[i]t is another objective to provide a means of assuring that a daughter card is secured in its fully inserted position **before any power is able to be provided to any portion of the card**, and to assure that **all power is shut off to the card** before it can be unlocked and removed from the card cage.” (Emphasis added.) (Col. 3, lines 45-50.) Thus, Glover et al. teaches away from a power tab directly interfaces with the guide means guiding the daughter card into the cage.

More specifically, Glover et al. do not teach or suggest, and in fact teach away from, said daughter card having a power tab extending beyond a first edge defining a periphery of said daughter card and a signal connector extending from a second edge perpendicular to said first edge, said signal connector configured to connect to said mother card for signal interconnection therebetween; and a guide means for guiding said daughter card into said mother card cage and in signal interconnection therewith, said guide means configured to provide power into and out of said daughter card via connection with said power tab wherein said power tab directly interfaces with said guide means guiding said daughter card into said cage, as in amended claim 1, and similarly claimed in independent claims 4 and 15.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 4 and 15, including claims depending therefrom, i.e., claims 2, 3, 5-14 and 16-25, define over Glover et al. for at least

this reason. Therefore it is respectfully requested that the rejection thereto be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - § 103

Claims 8, 10-13, 19 and 21-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Glover et al. Applicants respectfully traverse.

The Examiner alleges that Glover et al. teach all of the elements of the above-mentioned claims except (1) that each tab receives a unique voltage; and (2) that power tabs extend from a middle portion of the edge of said daughter card, which the Examiner states would have been obvious.

First, it is respectfully noted that claims 8 and 10-13 depend from independent claim 4, while claims 19, and 21-24 depend from independent claim 15, both of which are submitted as being allowable for defining over Glover et al. as discussed above. Secondly, it is respectfully noted that use of each tab receiving a unique voltage or extending from a middle portion of the edge of the daughter card does not cure the deficiencies noted above with respect to Glover et al.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection to claims 8, 10-13, 19 and 21-24 be withdrawn and allow the same to issue.

Claims 14 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Glover et al. in view of Otis (U.S. Patent No. 6,487,089). Applicants respectfully traverse.

The Examiner alleges that Glover et al. teach all of the elements of the above-mentioned claims except that said daughter card includes a reworkable EMC tailstock opposite said signal connector, which the Examiner alleges is taught in Otis at column 1, lines 40-45; and in Figure 8, element 44.

First, it is respectfully noted that claims 14 depends from independent claim 4, while claim 25 depends from independent claim 15, both of which are submitted as being allowable for defining over Glover et al. as discussed above. Secondly, it is respectfully noted that use of a reworkable EMC tailstock opposite said signal connector of a daughter card does not cure the deficiencies noted above with respect to Glover et al.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection to claims 14 and 25 be withdrawn and allow the same to issue.

Response to Arguments

With regards to Applicants' first argument submitted in response to the previous Office Action, the Examiner states that it is visibly evident with reference to FIG. 3 of Glover et al. that the power tab extends beyond a first card edge. It is respectfully noted that Glover et al. discloses at column 6, lines 20-26 and FIG. 3, that the contact means 58 are spaced along the active edge and exposed in recesses 60 of rail 32 as shown in FIG. 3. Further, it is respectfully noted that recitation of "said daughter card having a power tab extending beyond a first edge defining a periphery of said daughter card" does not read on one of the two (2) opposing surfaces defining the daughter card. For instance, to define a periphery of the daughter card in this orientation, a periphery of the card would entail the two opposing surfaces and at least one **edge** (e.g., in a circular card) connecting the two opposing surfaces. The opposing surfaces cannot define a periphery of the card alone, whereas an edge of a card can define a periphery. It is respectfully submitted that the opposing surfaces of the daughter card can hardly be considered as defining edges defining a periphery of said daughter card, as claimed.

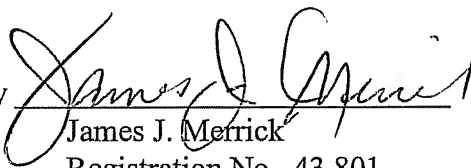
With regards to Applicants' second argument submitted in response to the previous Office Action, the Examiner states that element 58 in FIG. 3 directly interfaces the guide rail because it is in direct electrical communication with the guide rail and guides that card into said cage. As discussed above, Glover et al. teaches away from such a proposition at column 3, lines 45-50 and column 6, lines 20-26. In particular, FIG. 3 of Glover et al. teaches rail 32 fixed to card 34 and power tab 58 disposed within a recess of rail 32. Thus, rail 32 guides the card into the cage and there is no contact with power tab 58 until a corresponding terminal is cammed into contact therewith after the card is fully inserted (see FIG. 9). Since the power tab 58 of Glover et al. is not in contact with any element until the card is fully inserted, it does not guide the card as alleged by the Examiner. Glover et al. does not teach or suggest, and in fact teaches away from, **said power tab directly interfaces with said guide means guiding said daughter card into said cage**, as claimed.

Conclusion

It is believed that the foregoing remarks are fully responsive to the Office Action and that the claims herein should be allowable to the Applicants. In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of all rejections made by the Examiner and the allowance of all of the claims. In the event the Examiner has any queries regarding the instantly submitted Amendment, the undersigned respectfully requests the courtesy of a telephone conference to discuss any matters in need of attention.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 09-0463.

Respectfully submitted,

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